

1 Amendments to the claims

2 The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of
3 claims in the application:

4

5 1. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
6 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
7 memory and the consumable items each having an information retaining
8 mechanism, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the
method comprising the steps of:

9 a) for each consumable item distributed within a region, configuring the
10 information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely identifies the region;
11 ~~then~~

12 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
13 mechanism configured for the region; ~~and then~~

14 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
15 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
16 storing the information therein; and

17 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
18 regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
19 stored in the memory.

20 2. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
21 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 1, wherein the memory associated
22 with the device is an electronic memory within the device.

1 3. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 2, wherein the information retaining
3 mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the step of
4 configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
5 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
6 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
7 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device comprises
8 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
item and electronically writing the information to the electronic memory within the
device.

9
10 4. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
11 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 3, wherein the device further has
12 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
13 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
14 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
15 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
is accomplished over the wireless links.

16 5. (Canceled).

17
18 6. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
19 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 3, wherein electronically reading
20 the information from the electronic memory of the consumable is accomplished over
21 a wireless link.

22 7. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
23 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 1, wherein the device further
24 comprises a printer and the consumable items further comprise printer consumables.

25 8. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 7, wherein the printer is an ink jet
printer and the printer consumables are ink jet cartridges.

1
2 9. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
3 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
4 memory and an associated wireless communications link in data communication with
5 the associated memory, and the consumable items each having an electronic
6 memory component and a wireless communications link in data communication with
7 the electronic memory component, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-~~
~~regionalized condition~~, the method comprising the steps of:

8 a) for each consumable item distributed within a region, configuring the
9 electronic memory component in a manner which uniquely identifies the region; ~~then~~

10 b) installing in the device a consumable item having a memory component
11 configured for the region; ~~and then~~

12 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
13 electronic memory component over the wireless communication link[[s]] to the
14 memory associated with the device and storing the information therein; and

15 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
16 regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
17 stored in the memory.

18 10. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
19 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 9, wherein the device further
20 comprises a printer and the consumable items further comprise printer consumables.

21 11. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
22 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 10, wherein the printer is an ink jet
23 printer and the printer consumables are ink jet cartridges.

1 12. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
2 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
3 memory and the consumable items each having an information retaining
4 mechanism, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the
method comprising the steps of:

5 a) for each consumable item distributed within a region, configuring the
6 information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely identifies the region;
then

7 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
8 mechanism configured for the region; then

9 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
10 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
11 storing the information therein

12 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, then configuring the device
in a regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
13 stored in the memory; and

14 for subsequent consumable item installed in the device,

15 [[d]] e) testing the information retaining mechanism of the subsequently
16 installed consumable item to determine the region identification information
17 contained therein; then

18 [[e]] f) comparing the region identification of the subsequently installed
19 consumable with the region identification stored in memory, and then

20 [[f]] g) if the region identifications do not match, declining the subsequently
installed consumable.

21 13. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
22 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 12, wherein the memory
23 associated with the device is an electronic memory within the device.

1 14. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 13, wherein the information
3 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
4 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
5 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
6 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
7 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device comprises
8 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
item and electronically writing the information to the electronic memory within the
device.

9
10 15. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
11 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 14, wherein the device further has
12 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
13 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
14 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
15 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
is accomplished over the wireless links.

16
17 16. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
18 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 12, wherein the information
19 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
20 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
21 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
22 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
23 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device includes
24 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
item.

1 17. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 16, wherein the device further has
3 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
4 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
5 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
6 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
is accomplished over the wireless links.

7
8 18. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
9 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 12, wherein the device has an
10 associated user interface allowing messages to be displayed to a user and also
11 allowing responses to be input by the user, and the step of declining the consumable
comprises notifying the device user of an incompatibility and requiring a specific
12 response to be input by the user.

13
14 19. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
15 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
16 memory and an associated user interface for receiving user input and displaying
output, and the consumable items each having an information retaining mechanism,
17 ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition, the method~~
comprising the steps of:

18 a) for each consumable item distributed within a region, configuring the
19 information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely identifies the region;
20 ~~then~~

21 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
mechanism configured for the region; ~~and then~~

22 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
23 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
24 storing the information therein; ~~and~~

25 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
stored in the memory.

1 20. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 19, wherein the associated user
3 interface for receiving user input and displaying output is operable to receive input
4 and display out in a plurality of natural languages, and wherein the language used
5 for input and output is selected based upon the region identification information
stored in memory.

6
7 21. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
8 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
9 memory and the consumable items each having an information retaining
10 mechanism, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the
method comprising the steps of:

11 a) providing for distribution within the region consumable items each having
12 the information retaining mechanism configured in a manner which uniquely
13 identifies the region; then

14 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
15 mechanism configured for the region; and then

16 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
17 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
18 storing the information therein; and

19 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
20 regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
21 stored in the memory.

22 22. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
23 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 21, wherein the memory
24 associated with the device is an electronic memory within the device.

1 23. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 22, wherein the information
3 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
4 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
5 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
6 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
7 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device comprises
8 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
item and electronically writing the information to the electronic memory within the
device.

9
10 24. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
11 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 23, wherein the device further has
12 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
13 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
14 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
15 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
is accomplished over the wireless links.

16 25. (Canceled).

17
18 26. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
19 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 23, wherein electronically reading
20 the information from the electronic memory of the consumable is accomplished over
21 a wireless link.

22 27. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
23 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 21, wherein the device further
24 comprises a printer and the consumable items further comprise printer consumables.

25 28. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 27, wherein the printer is an ink jet
printer and the printer consumables are ink jet cartridges.

1
2 29. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
3 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
4 memory and an associated wireless communications link in data communication with
5 the associated memory, and the consumable items each having an electronic
6 memory component and a wireless communications link in data communication with
7 the electronic memory component, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-~~
~~regionalized condition~~, the method comprising the steps of:

8 a) providing for distribution within the region consumable items each having
9 the electronic memory component configured in a manner which uniquely identifies
10 the region; ~~then~~

11 b) installing in the device a consumable item having a memory component
12 configured for the region; ~~and then~~

13 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
14 electronic memory component over the wireless communication links to the memory
15 associated with the device and storing the information therein; and

16 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
17 regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
18 stored in the memory.

19 30. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
20 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 29, wherein the device further
21 comprises a printer and the consumable items further comprise printer consumables.

22 31. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
23 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 30, wherein the printer is an ink jet
24 printer and the printer consumables are ink jet cartridges.

1 32. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
2 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
3 memory and the consumable items each having an information retaining
4 mechanism, ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the
method comprising the steps of:

5 a) providing for distribution within the region consumable items each having
6 the information retaining mechanism configured in a manner which uniquely
7 identifies the region; ~~then~~

8 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
9 mechanism configured for the region; ~~then~~

10 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
11 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
12 storing the information therein;

13 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
14 regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
15 stored in the memory; and

16 for subsequent consumable item installed in the device,

17 e) [[d]] testing the information retaining mechanism of the subsequently
18 installed consumable item to determine the region identification information
19 contained therein; ~~then~~

20 f) [[e]] comparing the region identification of the subsequently installed
21 consumable with the region identification stored in memory, and ~~then~~

22 g) [[f]] if the region identifications do not match, declining the subsequently
23 installed consumable.

24 33. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
25 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 32, wherein the memory
associated with the device is an electronic memory within the device.

1 34. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 33, wherein the information
3 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
4 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
5 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
6 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
7 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device comprises
8 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
item and electronically writing the information to the electronic memory within the
device.

9
10 35. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 34, wherein the device further has
11 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
12 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
13 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
14 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
15 is accomplished over the wireless links.

16
17 36. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 32, wherein the information
18 retaining mechanism of each of the consumable items is an electronic memory, the
19 step of configuring the information retaining mechanism in a manner which uniquely
20 identifies the region comprises writing the region identification information to the
21 electronic memory, and the step of transferring region identification information from
22 the consumable item to the electronic memory within the device includes
23 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
item.

1 37. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 36, wherein the device further has
3 an associated wireless communications link in data communication with the
4 associated memory and the consumable items each further comprise a wireless
5 communications link in data communication with the electronic memory, and
6 electronically reading the information from the electronic memory of the consumable
is accomplished over the wireless links.

7 38. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
8 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 32, wherein the device has an
9 associated user interface allowing messages to be displayed to a user and also
10 allowing responses to be input by the user, and the step of declining the consumable
11 comprises notifying the device user of an incompatibility and requiring a specific
12 response to be input by the user.

13 39. (Currently Amended) A method of regionalizing a manufactured device
14 and consumable items utilized by the device, the device having an associated
15 memory and an associated user interface for receiving user input and displaying
16 output, and the consumable items each having an information retaining mechanism,
17 ~~the manufactured device initially in a non-regionalized condition~~, the method
comprising the steps of:

18 a) providing for distribution within the region consumable items each having
19 the information retaining mechanism configured in a manner which uniquely
20 identifies the region; then

21 b) installing in the device a consumable item having an information retaining
22 mechanism configured for the region; and then

23 c) transferring the region identification information from the consumable item
24 information retaining mechanism to the memory associated with the device and
25 storing the information therein; and

26 d) if the device is in a non-regionalized condition, configuring the device in a
27 regionalized condition based on the transferred region identification information
28 stored in the memory.

1 40. (Original) The method of regionalizing a manufactured device and
2 consumable items utilized by the device of Claim 39, wherein the associated user
3 interface for receiving user input and displaying output is operable to receive input
4 and display out in a plurality of natural languages, and wherein the language used
5 for input and output is selected based upon the region identification information
6 stored in memory.

7 41-51. (Canceled).